

# MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

## Success Stories from the Field

### Contech Medical Inc.

#### Rhode Island Manufacturing Extension Services

#### Contech Medicals' Road to Success

##### Client Profile:

Contech Medical Inc., founded in 1987, is a contract manufacturer of dispenser coils and a wide range of patented and proprietary medical products. The company is a global supplier of medical devices to companies which include Bard, Johnson & Johnson and Boston Scientific. Contech employs 100 people at its facility in Providence, Rhode Island.

##### Situation:

Contech Medical was committed to continuous business improvement and wanted to have their employees trained in Lean manufacturing tools and techniques. The company called upon the Rhode Island Manufacturing Extension Services (RIMES), a NIST MEP network affiliate, for assistance.

##### Solution:

RIMES provided Lean training for Contech Medical employees through a Comprehensive Workforce Training Grant. RIMES conducted training in Lean overview, 5S (Sort, Set in Order, Shine, Standardize, Sustain), Value Stream Mapping (VSM), Lean office, and quick changeover. In addition, facilitation services were provided for the 5S and VSM teams throughout the implementation process. "The results from the training that RIMES provided have proved a sound investment for Contech," said Don Lachapelle, Contech's Corporate Controller. "Not only did RIMES provide the training and implementation services, but they also helped with the technical writing to secure a grant to off-set the cost," added Lachapelle. Contech's return on investment has allowed the company to invest close to \$500,000 in infrastructure and technology improvement.

##### Results:

- \* Realized \$50,000 in cost savings.
- \* Increased investment in workforce development by \$20,000.

##### Testimonial:

"The manufacturing improvements have saved Contech over \$50,000 and increased the investment in our workforce by \$20,000. With our out-of-pocket investment of \$10,000, the return on investment (ROI) to our company is \$7 to \$1. That ROI helped our organization to reinvest in the company."

Don LaChappelle, Corporate Controller